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WITH THE U.S.S.R  
LONDON NOVEMBER 4-5 1944

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# The Future of

## BRITISH - SOVIET RELATIONS

BY A. J. CUMMINGS

IN his latest Parliamentary review of the war situation Mr. Churchill declared that the future of the whole world, and certainly the future of Europe, perhaps for several generations, "depends upon the cordial, trustful, and comprehending association of the British Empire, the United States, and Soviet Russia"; and that "no pains must be spared and no patience grudged which are necessary to bring that supreme hope to fruition."

All this is profoundly true. It is no less true that the orderly settlement of Europe, and its continuance in peace and security, must depend above all on the stability of good relations between Soviet Russia and Great Britain.

An unbelievable change for the better has come over Anglo-Soviet relations. There was a time, as we know too well, when they were gravely impaired by mutual suspicion and distrust. Those of us in this country who sought hard for many years to interpret to the British people the aims and the character of modern Russia, and to persuade successive British Governments that wise statesmanship would seek Soviet good will, had to fight a stern and, as it sometimes seemed, a hopeless struggle.

There were misconceptions on both sides. Just as certain people here feared that the Comintern was building up propaganda intended to interfere with our internal affairs so the Soviets were convinced that the long-term policy of the Western capitalist democracies, with Britain in the van, was aimed at the virtual extinction, if necessary by force of arms, of the Soviet State.

I am convinced that but for this unfortunate lack of understanding between the two great European Powers, the second World War could have been avoided, or at least brought to an early and abrupt conclusion. It is true that, as the Nazi

menace became more and more acute, there were signs of a growing comprehension in London and Moscow of the need for common action to meet a common peril. But on each side motives and intentions were still suspect; and Hitler struck before they could be resolved.

It was not until Hitler made his treacherous attack on the Soviet Union that unity was achieved, and the sense of brotherhood in a vital cause. Mr. Churchill's famous broadcast on June 22, 1941, had an electrifying effect not only in Russia and Britain, but throughout the world; and in effect it sealed the doom of Nazi Germany.

The magnificent resistance of the Red Army and the Soviet people filled our hearts with admiration and gratitude. It caused a revulsion of feeling in all classes of men and women, and created here an ardent desire to learn more of the great Soviet economy about which millions of British citizens had been so grossly misinformed.

These feelings were soon reciprocated by the Russian people; and the intensification of the war on all fronts strengthened the bonds of Anglo-Soviet confidence and brought with it measures of practical co-operation.

The presentation to Stalingrad by King George of a Sword of Honour was a symbol of this growing unity; and the signing of the Anglo-Soviet Treaty in London on May 26, 1942, was its realistic expression.

Can that twenty years' treaty be fulfilled in the letter and in the spirit? I believe it can and will be. I believe it can be converted into the instrument of a political, economic, and cultural friendship that will influence the affairs of Europe for generations to come.

The people of Britain, fully awakened to the realities of the European problem, are determined to maintain this friendship ; and from all I hear the Soviets are of the same way of thinking.

From time to time differences of official opinion must occur on particular issues of policy. But there is no fundamental issue on which our national interests need clash. There is nothing discernible in the future development of Europe, either politically or in the field of economics, likely to produce serious jealousies or rivalries between us.

One of our essential aims should be to get to know one another more intimately, as individual human beings. Russians talk about the British in general terms ; the British talk in the same manner about Russians. But how many Russian citizens have met how many British citizens in the sense that British and Americans, for instance, come together ?

If our friendship is to become natural and easy, so that we may know just what we are all thinking, and why we are so thinking, so that we may even quarrel as families quarrel without peril to our relationship, then there must be a much greater exchange of visits by the common

people than there has ever been before. It must be as much of a commonplace for Russians to come to England as for the English to go to Russia.

There must be a free exchange of literature and newspapers. Men of science and industry, men of letters, trade unionists, and other representatives of a cross-section of the social life of the two nations must meet, not merely on delegations to attend conferences, but in the ordinary way of familiar human contacts.

Anglo-Russian athletic meetings and games should also be strenuously encouraged. Above all, I should like to see the elements of the Russian language taught in British schools in the same way as basic English is now taught in many Soviet schools.

Good-will, like ill-will, can be organised ; and I want to see so complete and thorough a massing of the good-will front that Britain and Russia will lead the way in the dissemination of this priceless commodity and so, by their example and exertions, help immeasurably to liberate Europe and the world from the evil consequences of envy, malice, and fear.

A. J. CUMMINGS.



Sir Stafford Cripps and Stalin watch Molotov signing the British-Soviet Alliance

# WHO'S WHO

## AT THE CONGRESS AND DEMONSTRATION

### CAPTAIN VASSILI BOGATYREV

Former Leningrad student. Lost his father and two brothers in the defence of the city, and his mother during the siege. Aged 26, and decorated for gallantry in the defence of the Caucasus and in the fight for the Dnieper crossings. Now acting as permanent representative of Soviet youth on the World Youth Council.

### ROBERT J. G. BOOTHBY, M.P.

Member for East Aberdeenshire since 1924. Parliamentary Secretary to the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill, M.P.) from 1926 to 1929; Hon. President, Scottish Chamber of Agriculture, 1934; Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Food, 1940.

### SIR WILLIAM BRADSHAW, J.P.

President of the Co-operative Wholesale Society since 1936, and delegate of the C.W.S. to the Congress. Started work at the age of 13 at the Ripley Co-operative Society, later General Manager of Wirksworth Co-operative Society, and General Manager and Secretary of Grantham Co-operative Society.

### ALAN BUSH

Born in 1900. At present serving in H.M. Forces. Professor of Composition at the Royal College of Music. Composer. His first Symphony was performed in 1943 at the Promenade Concerts. He is President of the Workers' Music Association.

### THE DEAN OF CANTERBURY

The Very Reverend Hewlett Johnson, D.D., M.A., B.Sc., Associate Member of the Institute of Civil Engineers, Honours in Theology, Oxford, 1900. Founder and proprietor of the *Interpreter*, which he edited from 1905 to 1924. Author of *The Socialist Sixth of the World*, of which million copies have been sold in different countries.

### THE BISHOP OF CHELMSFORD

Rt. Reverend Henry Albert Wilson, D.D., President of the National Council for British-Soviet Unity. Educated at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge;

Curate at Hampstead, 1899-1904, Vicar of Norbiton, Surrey, 1904 to 1916; Rural Dean of Cheltenham, 1916 to 1928. Author of many books on religious subjects, including *Your Faith or Your Life*, 1940.

### RICHARD COPPOCK, C.B.E.

General Secretary of the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives Bricklayer by trade, Trade Union official travelled extensively through Europe and America, and has done much international work for the building trade unions Member of Manchester City Council 1919-1921; Alderman, London County Council, 1925-1942; Chairman of L.C.C. 1943-1944. Has written many pamphlets dealing with the building trade, rationalisation and its effects on the workers and so on.

### CHARLES EVANS

Miner. Native of Abertillery. Has for many years conducted the Abertillery Unity Male Voice Choir, which has specialised on modern music. The choir has visited many Welsh and English towns under the leadership of its conductor, and has performed at functions connected with British-Soviet unity. Recently the choir's performance of *The Men of the Trojan Horse* was recorded by the B.B.C. for its European broadcasts.

### REV. STANLEY EVANS

A Londoner by birth. B.A., Leeds. For some time curate of St. Andrew Plaistow, and now licensed to the Church of St. Stephen in North-West London. Author of *Religion in the U.S.S.R.*, *The Soviet Churches and the War*, and *The Churches in the U.S.S.R.*

### G. C. T. GILES

Headmaster of the Acton County School for Boys; President of the National Union of Teachers. Has worked as Professor of English at the Public Commercial School, Athens; Mackinnon Master at Geelong Grammar School, Victoria, Australia, and Senior Latin Master at the Latymer Upper School, Hammersmith. Executive Member of the N.U.T. since 1937.

## LOUIS GOLDING, M.A.

Novelist, essayist, lecturer. Travelled widely in the Mediterranean and islands, and Near Eastern deserts. Began writing while an undergraduate at Oxford, prose and poetry; in Mesopotamia during the last war. His publications include *Sorrow of War, Poems*, 1919; *Those Ancient Lands*, being a journey to Palestine, 1928; and *Magnolia Street*, the very popular novel published in 1932. Also published *A Letter to Adolf Hitler*, 1933, and *Hitler Through the Ages*, 1939.

## MISS CAROLINE HASLETT, C.B.E.

First Secretary of the Women's Engineering Society, first Director of the Electrical Association for Women; Chairman of the British Federation of Business and Professional Women, Vice-Chairman of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women; Founder and Editor of *The Woman Engineer* and *The Electrical Age*.

## Dr. N. LAPTEVA

Representative in Britain of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the U.S.S.R. Was born in Tomsk in Siberia. Studied at a Soviet School, and then at the University of Rostov-on-Don. Has worked as a doctor in several different institutions, and for the past seven years at the Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic of the First Medical Institute in Moscow.

## PROF. H. LEVY, M.A., D.Sc.

Professor of Mathematics at the Imperial College of Science and Technology since 1923; Vice-President of the London Mathematical Society, 1931-1932. Author

of numerous scientific works, including the following: *Aeronautics in Theory and Experiment*, *Science in the Changing World*, *The Web of Thought and Action*, and *A Modern Philosophy*.

## JOSEPH MACLEOD

Has worked as book-reviewer, actor, producer, lecturer on theatre-history; director of the Festival Theatre, Cambridge, 1933 to 1936, and B.B.C. announcer since 1938. Secretary of Huntingdon Divisional Labour Party, 1937-1938, also Parliamentary candidate. Among his plays and writings are: *A Woman Turned to Stone*, *Overture to Cambridge*, and *The New Soviet Theatre*.

## J. B. PRIESTLEY, M.A., L.L.D.

Educated at Cambridge. Served with Duke of Wellington's and Devon Regiments, 1914-1918. Author of numerous novels and plays, some of which are now being performed in the U.S.S.R. His works include the novels *Angel Pavement* and *The Good Companions*, and the plays *They Came to a City*, and *How Are They at Home?* He achieved great popularity through his B.B.C. postscripts, and was the initiator of the London Philharmonic Musical Manifesto at the Albert Hall early in the war.

## D. N. PRITT, K.C., M.P.

Independent Labour Member for North Hammersmith since 1935. Educated at London University, and in Germany,

(continued on page 11)



Sir Peter Chalmers Mitchell handing a cheque for £36,000 to Mme. Maisky, in the Offices of the Joint Committee for Soviet Aid. The Chairman, the Dean of Canterbury, is on the left of the picture.

# PROGRAMME OF CONGRESS

---

1st Session, November 4, at 10.30 a.m., at the Central Hall, Westminster.

Chairman: THE BISHOP OF CHELMSFORD

ELECTION OF STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

ELECTION OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

MESSAGES TO CONGRESS

RESOLUTION

D. N. Pritt, K.C., M.P., will move a Resolution on British-Soviet Relations and International Co-operation for Peace

DISCUSSION ON RESOLUTION

---

2nd Session, November 4, at 2.15 p.m., at the Central Hall, Westminster

Chairman: MISS CAROLINE HASLETT, O.B.E.

DISCUSSION ON RESOLUTION CONTINUED

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION

---

3rd Session, November 5, at 10.30 a.m., at the Coliseum Theatre

Chairman: RICHARD COPPOCK, C.B.E.

Discussion on a STATEMENT aiming at strengthening mutual friendship between all sections of the British people and the Soviet Union

ADOPTION OF STATEMENT

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE'S REPORT

---

During the proceedings of the Congress the following will take part in the discussions:

Sir William Bradshaw THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT

J. B. Priestley CULTURE

Professor H. Levy SCIENCE

Alderman S. Stringer CIVIC CO-OPERATION

G. C. T. Giles EDUCATION

Jack Tanner TRADE UNIONS

Rev. J. H. Rushbrooke RELIGION

Dr. N. Lapteva RUSSIAN RED CROSS

# PROGRAMME OF DEMONSTRATION

at the Coliseum Theatre, November 5th, at 3 p.m.

Chairman :

LOUIS GOLDING, M.A.

Speakers :

THE DEAN OF CANTERBURY

ROBERT BOOTHBY, M.P.

REV. STANLEY EVANS

CAPTAIN V. BOGATYREV

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Conductor: ALAN BUSH

Kamarinskaya	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Glinka
Tachanka	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Listov
The Song of Stalin	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Khatchatourian
Jerusalem	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Parry
Voice of the City	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Elizabeth Maconchy
Men of the Trojan Horse	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	H. B. Fortuin
(Abertillery Unity Male Voice Choir. Conductor: Charles Evans)									
Song of the Commons of England		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Alan Bush
March from "Shape of Things to Come"		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Arthur Bliss

Soviet and British Anthems

The following Choirs are taking part:—

Abertillery Unity Male Voice

Kodak

Ashford Labour

Tottenham Co-operative

Battersea Co-operative

Welling and Bexley Heath Co-operative

Central London

W.M.A. Singers

Edgware Co-operative

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R. Coppock  
Bishop H. Crotty  
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Canon J. A. Douglas  
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Mrs. C. S. Ganley  
J. L. Garvin  
John Gielgud  
G. C. T. Giles  
Lady Glen Coats  
Louis Golding  
Sir Richard Gregory  
Professor J. B. S. Haldane  
Miss Caroline Haslett  
E. G. Hemmerde  
Very Rev. J. H. Hertz  
Miss Valerie Hobson  
Lord Horder  
Earl of Huntingdon  
C. Jarman  
Augustus John  
Sir Francis Joseph  
Mrs. Beatrice King  
Sir Alexander Korda  
Miss A. Susan Lawrence  
Will Lawther  
Canon S. Leeson  
Professor Hyman Levy  
A. D. Lindsay  
Rt. Hon. David Lloyd George, M.P.  
Earl of Lytton  
Joseph Macleod  
Dr. Joan McMichael  
Lady MacRobert  
Dr. J. J. Mallon  
Sir P. Manson-Bahr  
Sir Walter Monckton  
Lady Montgomery  
Lt.-Col. Sir Thomas Moore, M.P.  
Lord Moran  
Lord Mayor of Manchester  
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Mayor of Battersea  
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Mayor of Deptford  
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Mayor of Lambeth  
Mayor of St. Pancras  
Mayor of Southwark  
Mayor of Willesden  
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Sir John Russell  
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L. A. G. Strong  
Hannen Swaffer  
Stafford Talbot  
Jack Tanner  
W. H. Thompson  
Rev. H. Townsend  
Dr. G. M. Trevelyan  
Vicky  
Sir Alfred Webb-Johnson  
H. G. Wells  
L. C. White  
Professor F. Wood-Jones  
J. J. Worley  
Sir George Young

and others.

# EXHIBITION

The Exhibition in the foyer at the Central Hall deals with various aspects of British-Soviet friendship. The following organisations are represented:—

## ANGLO-SOVIET YOUTH FRIENDSHIP ALLIANCE

Secretary : Miss Helen Guiterman. Telephone : MAYfair 6197  
Address : 12b George Street, Hanover Square, W.1.

## JOINT COMMITTEE FOR SOVIET AID

Secretary : Mrs. B. Rothman Telephone : ABBey 7447  
Address : 171 St. Stephen's House, Westminster, S.W.1

## MRS. CHURCHILL'S AID TO RUSSIA FUND

Secretary : Miss Johnson Telephone : SLOane 5151  
Address : 14 Grosvenor Crescent, S.W.1

## RUSSIA TODAY SOCIETY

Secretary : Mr. Reg. Bishop Telephone : TERminus 6307  
Address : 150 Southampton Row, W.C.1

## SOCIETY FOR CULTURAL RELATIONS WITH THE U.S.S.R.

Secretary : Miss Judith Todd Telephone : EUSton 2315  
Address : 98 Gower Street, W.C.1

## WOMEN'S BRITISH-SOVIET COMMITTEE

Secretary : Mrs. R. Waterman Telephone : ABBey 4401  
Address : 157 Abbey House, Victoria Street, S.W.1

## NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR BRITISH-SOVIET UNITY

(Organisers of the National Congress)

Secretary : Mr. C. E. Fearn Telephone : ABBey 2721  
Address : 101 Abbey House, Victoria Street, S.W.1

## “THE MODERN GUY FAWKES”

Three-dimensional cartoon presented to the British-Soviet Movement by the artist,  
MISS DOROTHY ROGERS.

## WHO'S WHO (continued from p. 7)

Switzerland, and Spain. Late Chairman of the Howard League for Penal Reform. Chairman of the Society for Cultural Relations with the U.S.S.R. His publications include *Light on Moscow* and *Must the War Spread?*

## ALDERMAN SIDNEY STRINGER

Chairman of the Coventry Anglo-Soviet Committee since its inception in November, 1941. Mayor of Coventry, 1938-1939, and Chairman of Coventry Labour Party from 1933, except when Mayor and Deputy-Mayor. At present is Chairman of the Coventry Watch Committee, and of the Policy Advisory Committee, and Vice-Chairman of the Education Com-

mittee and Emergency Committee. Also a member of the Management Committee of the Coventry Co-operative Society.

## JACK TANNER

President of the Amalgamated Engineering Union. Native of Whitstable, Londoner by adoption. Apprenticed in London, worked as fitter and turner, was one of the first rank-and-file delegates to visit Russia in 1920. Visited Russia again in 1928. Was successively Chairman of the London District Committee of the A.E.U., London Divisional Organiser, Member of National Executive; and in 1939 was elected President. Member of General Council of T.U.C. since September, 1943.

# The Honorary SECRETARY says:—

THE Anglo-Russian Treaty of Alliance and the Declarations of the Moscow and Teheran Conferences were universally hailed. Everywhere they were recognised as the main stepping stones to both Victory and Peace.

But agreements between governments are not enough. If full and lasting co-operation is to be established, there must be not only unity of purpose between the governments, but also unity of purpose between our two peoples—a unity based on firm friendship and mutual understanding.

To develop this essential friendship and understanding is the sole aim of the National Council for British-Soviet Unity, and this great National Congress for Friendship and Co-operation with the U.S.S.R. is the culmination of over two and a half years of consistent effort and achievement.

Set up at a National Conference held in London in February, 1942, the National Council's main task is to act as a central advisory body to the 300 local Friendship and Aid Committees and Groups which have been established in all parts of Britain.

## All-Round Activities

These Committees and Groups are the local centres of all who understand the vitally important role which British-Soviet co-operation must play in rebuilding the world when the evil forces of Fascism have been finally crushed. They enjoy the active support of all sections of the community, and many of them have Civic patronage. Week in and week out, they are actively engaged in promoting British-Soviet friendship. Friendship Weeks, demonstrations, conferences, huge sales of books and pamphlets, film shows and concerts, Brains Trusts, week-end schools, and talks to war workers and units of H.M. Armed Forces—these are only a few of the events which are organised regularly. In addition, both Committees and Groups campaign for British and Soviet war charities, and already they have been instrumental in raising hundreds of thousands of pounds for Russian aid.

An indispensable factor in all this work is the National Council for British-Soviet Unity. Whilst zealously safeguarding the full autonomy which each local Committee

and Group enjoys, the National Council stimulates, advises and assists their developing services to fulfill their ever need. These services include the provision of speakers and lecturers, Letters of Information, publicity material, exhibition advice on organisational and other problems, and information about every phase of Soviet life and affairs.

In addition to supplying speakers to Friendship Committees and Groups, the Council also supplies them to outside organisations, and an ever-increasing number of Trade Union Branches, Rotary Clubs, Co-operative Guilds, and other bodies utilise the services it places freely at their disposal.

## Anniversary Events

Another important section of the Council's work deals with the establishment of fraternal relations between British and Soviet towns. Already a substantial number of British towns have been placed into direct contact with their counterparts in the U.S.S.R., and as soon as war conditions permit it is intended to assist in forging many more of these important human bonds of friendship.

Red Army Day, Soviet National Day, and the Anniversary of the Signing of the Anglo-Russian Treaty of Alliance are nowadays commemorated on a wide and impressive scale. On these occasions the National Council not only assists Committees and Groups to organise local demonstrations, but itself organises in London a great, representative demonstration. These national demonstrations command the widest support and they are filmed and recorded for broadcasting both in Britain and the U.S.S.R.

## Interesting Children

But the work of the Council is not confined to adults. It has an energetic Children's Committee whose activities have included the organisation of a National Poster Competition and the establishment of a Children's Film Library which provides schools and children's organisations with a comprehensive selection of suitable films.

The Women's British-Soviet Committee, which is associated with the National Council, undertakes the special function of strengthening the ties between British

Soviet women. Recently it received Moscow an album compiled by Soviet men, and it is planning, in co-operation with the various women's organisations in the country, to prepare a similar album, recording the war-time life and achievements of British women.

### Marshal Stalin's Best Wishes

The value of the work of the National Council is shown not only by the tributes which have been paid to it by leaders of all sections of British life, but also by the message of good wishes which, through its President, the Bishop of Chelmsford, it received from Marshal Stalin.

As substantial as have been its achievements in the past, it is planning even greater ones in the future, for with the approach of Victory its work becomes even more important and urgent. In preparation for the post-war period it is making ambitious plans. These include provision of still better services to all Committees and Groups; assistance to organisations and individuals who desire to set up Friendship Committees and Groups in towns where as yet none exist; great expansion in the establishment of external relations between British and

Soviet towns; help in arranging for the exchange of British and Soviet delegations as soon as conditions allow for these interchange of visits to be made; and the establishment in London of a Friendship House which will serve all who support British-Soviet Friendship and Co-operation as a permanent meeting place and centre.

In order to carry out these plans the National Council will need the whole-hearted support of organisations and individuals everywhere. It will also need greatly increased financial assistance, for the Council is dependent almost entirely on voluntary donations for its income. But it is going ahead with its plans in the confident expectation that this support and money will be forthcoming.

The work of promoting British-Soviet friendship—of developing co-operation between our two peoples—is work which all organisations and all individual men and women can, and should, engage in. For on the establishment of full British-Soviet friendship and co-operation rest all our hopes for the future. It is the main key not only to Victory, but also to the establishment of a just and lasting Peace.

**C. E. FEARN**

*Hon. Sec., National Council for British-Soviet Unity.*



The visit of Lt. Lyudmilla Pavlichenko to Coventry in November, 1942. Photo by courtesy of the Editor, *Coventry Evening Telegraph*

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"  
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useful . . . spreading knowledge  
of present-day Russia and so  
fostering the mutual under-  
standing between Soviet Russia  
and Great Britain without which  
there is no hope for this world  
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PECKHAM Co-operative Hall	Fri. 10 .. 3 6
TOTTENHAM Baths	Mon. 13 .. 3 6
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## U.S.S.R.

# Soviet War News

*weekly*

12 OCTOBER 1940

1940

## HITLER SHALL HAVE NO HEIRS!

*Red Army in Bulgaria*



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Every Thursday

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### • News

dispatches from the Soviet front by leading war correspondents and Red Army officers

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through your support has collected since Nov. 1943  
money and goods in kind to the value of over

**£750,000**

including

Stalingrad Hospital Fund (original target £75,000) **£212,600**

X-Ray Unit Campaign — launched February, 1942. Received by end of summer 1942 **£125,000**

Red Army Flag Day, February 23, 1944  
**£45,857**

**OVER 450,000 GARMEN**  
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Hospital linen (gifts from British housewives) to the value of **£90,000**

*The J.C.S.A. is now campaigning through the*

## **VATUTIN TRIBUTE FUND**

**for money to buy medical supplies and comforts for the Red Army and the peoples in the devastated Soviet territories**

*Our Prime Minister on Russia :*

*In his speech in Parliament on September 25, 1944, Mr. Churchill said*

**“Russia has through long years, AT ENORMOUS LOSS, borne the brunt of the struggle on land”**

**REMEMBER :** Russia has lost 5 million Red Army soldiers on the battlefield, and some 10 million have been wounded. Every day these numbers increase. In addition, German occupation has left its mark on 6 million Russian civilians. Russia's scars are deep.

**THIS IS WHY YOUR SUPPORT WILL STILL BE NEEDED**

## **JOINT COMMITTEE FOR SOVIET AID**

*(Regd. under the War Charities Act, 1940)*

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